# Annual Report on the Health

of the

# SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT IN 1896.

| CENSUS 1881. | | CENSUS 1891. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. of Acres ... ... ... ... | 1660 | No. of Acres ... ... ... ... | 1678* |
| Inhabited Houses ... ... ... | 838 | Inhabited Houses ... ... ... | 1102 |
| Population ... ... ... ... ... | 4059 | Population ... ... ... ... ... | 5418 |

* 78 Acres transferred to Tunbridge Wells, in November, 1894.

**The POPULATION** of Southborough at the middle of the year 1896 was estimated by the Registrar-General's method to be **6,307.**

During the year 161 births were registered, including 70 of males and 91 of females. This gives a **Birth-rate** of **25·5** per 1,000 as compared with 28·3 during the previous year, and 26·1 in 1894.

Ninety-five deaths were registered—46 of males and 49 of females.

The **GENERAL DEATH-RATE** was **15** per 1,000, as against 12.9 in 1895, and 15·5 in 1894.

The **ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE** was somewhat high, being 3·1 per 1,000 as compared with 0·3—the exceptionally low rate which was obtained in 1895. This excess is fully accounted for by the 13 deaths from Measles, 10 of which took place during the third quarter of the year.

The **INFANT MORTALITY,** i.e., the deaths of children under one year per 1,000 total registered births was **192.**

For England and Wales taken as a whole the Birth-rate in 1896 was 29·7, the General Death-rate 17·1, and the Zymotic Death-rate 2·18 per 1,000 of the population. The Infant Mortality was 148 per 1,000 births.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.** Under the Infectious Disease Notification Act 66 cases were reported as against 30 in 1895, and 23 in 1894. They included 43 cases of Scarlet Fever, 19 of Diphtheria, three of Erysipelas, and one of Enteric (Typhoid) Fever.

The district was entirely free from Small-pox.

**SCARLET FEVER.** The 43 notified cases were distributed over the year as follows;—

| 1st quarter. | 2nd quarter. | 3rd quarter. | 4th quarter. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 4 | 16 | 17 |

Eight of the patients were under five years of age, and it is satisfactory to record that no deaths took place in the district during the year. Of the 43 cases, 41 were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

**DIPHTHERIA** (including Membranous Croup). This disease, as in several surrounding districts and throughout the country generally, was prevalent during the year.

Among the 19 reported cases four deaths resulted, these were among children, two of which were aged 5, one 3 years, and one 15 months, and occurred during the months of February, May, November, and December.—Two were located in Forge Street, one in Holden Road, and one at High Brooms. One case only of Diphtheria was removed to Hospital.

**ENTERIC (TYPHOID FEVER).** It is a matter for congratulation that only one case of Enteric Fever (which recovered) occurred in the District. A similar state of things with regard to this fever existed in 1895.

## NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

**WHOOPING COUGH** caused two deaths, one in March and one in May. It was not nearly so prevalent as during 1895.

**MEASLES** was very widely spread, and was in many cases of a virulent type during the spring and summer months, and was the cause of 13 deaths, nine of which were of children under 5 years of age. Three deaths occurred in June, 6 in July, and 4 in August.

High Brooms was severely visited by the epidemic and eight of the deaths occurred in that locality. On account of the prevalence of Measles the High Brooms School was closed from March 27th to April 10th, and again during July and August; St. Peter's National School from May 20th to June 16th, and Christ Church School from June 8th to July 13th.

On each occasion of School closure I have inspected the School premises and made recommendations to the Managers with regard to any sanitary alterations needed.

**ISOLATION.** The Hospital for the reception of infectious cases has been of great service. Forty-two patients, *i.e.*, 63·6 per cent. of the notified cases were admitted during the year as follows:—

In January 6, in February 1, in June 2, in July 4, in August 8, in September 4, in October 10, in November 4, and in December 3.

All those admitted were suffering from Scarlet Fever, with the exception of one case of Diphtheria.

Twenty-four were males and 18 females.

The ages of the patients varied from 3 to 30 years, the average age being 9½.

The average stay of a patient was 47 days; the longest stay was 79, and the shortest 20 days.

No deaths occurred in the Hospital throughout the year.

Mr. Harmer's Report of work done during the year, the customary tables and the returns required by the Local Government Board are appended.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

*10th February, 1897.*

# SOUTHBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## Nuisances dealt with, and Notices served by the Sanitary Inspector during the Year ending Christmas, 1896.

| | |
|---|---|
| Defective Drains flushed and repaired ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 23 |
| Drains reconstructed with disconnecting chambers and ventilation ... | 29 |
| Wash-up sinks and Drains provided... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 9 |
| Insanitary W.c.'s. ... ... .. ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| New W.c. and Drainage provided ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Defective pavings to back courts ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 17 |
| Polluted Well of Water cleaned out... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Unsafe and unused Wells done over ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| New Well Kerbs provided ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Old ditto. repaired ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Wells of Water condemned and town supply laid to 18 houses ... ... | 3 |
| Sanitary Dust Bins provided ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Eaves, Gutters, and Down Pipes repaired and renewed ... ... ... | 6 |
| House structural defects dealt with ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Stable building and loft condemned, pulled down ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Insanitary stable buildings dealt with ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Houses insanitary generally and thoroughly dealt with... ... ... ... | 4 |
| Case of overcrowding dealt with ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Foul Rain Water Tank Cleansed ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |

In addition to the above a large number of minor nuisances dealt with verbally.

WILLIAM HARMER,

Sanitary Inspector.

# THE HEALTH

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# SOUTHBOROUGH

URBAN

# SANITARY DISTRICT,

IN

**1896.**

# ANNUAL REPORT

BY

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DEE, PRINTER, SOUTHBOROUGH.